

FISCAL NOTE

SB 3856

January 25, 2008

SUMMARY OF BILL: Requires that every newborn infant be screened for hearing loss, unless a parent objects on religious grounds.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Expenditures – Not Significant

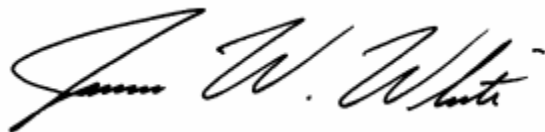
Other Fiscal Impact – The Department of Health currently receives a \$150,000 federal newborn hearing screening follow-up grant from the Department of Health and Human Services. This grant could be placed in jeopardy if required reporting data was not properly reported to the Department of Health.

Assumptions:

- No significant increase in state expenditures for the Departments of Education and Health to promulgate rules.
- No significant increase in state expenditures to the Tennessee Early Intervention System to provide services for referred children.
- All hospitals in Tennessee have the necessary testing equipment.
- Local health departments will refer newborns who were born outside of a hospital to a clinic or hospital that contains the necessary testing equipment.
- The Department of Health is not responsible for reimbursing health care providers for testing newborns who were born outside of a hospital setting.

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



James W. White, Executive Director

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